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FIELD MEETINGS OF THE CLUB

The excursion of August 11 to Great Island, New Jersey, with Dr. Rusby as guide, was unfortunately interrupted by stormy weather before the intended field for observation was reached.

On August 18, Mr. Guy West Wilson, in place of Dr. Rydberg, who was out of town, accompanied representatives of the club to Alpine, New Jersey, by way of the Yonkers ferry.

August 25, Mr. W. W. Eggleston, substituting for Mr. George V. Nash, guided members of the Club to Moonachie, New Jersey. An interesting afternoon was spent in studying the salt-marsh plants. *Blephariglottis ciliaris* was nearly past flowering, but a few good specimens were found. A small patch of *Lacinaria* in brilliant flower, *Helenium autumnale*, *Hibiscus Moscheutos*, *Bartonia tenella* and *Polygonum hydropiperoides* were among the other plants especially noted.

The excursion of September 1 was to Hempstead, Long Island, with Miss Fanny A. Mulford as guide. The storage reservoir was first visited, the region of which combined the flora of the dry sandy woods with that of the open swamp. The genus *Lespedeza* was much in evidence, six species being found. *Eupatorium verbenaefolium*, *E. aromaticum*, *Gerardia tenuifolia*, *Scutellaria parvula*, *Silene stellata*, and *Polygonella articulata* were also observed. The most interesting plant of the Hempstead Plains was perhaps *Gerardia decemloba* Greene, with which *Lobelia Nuttallii* was growing. *Eupatorium hyssopifolium*, *Viola notabilis*, *V. Brittoniana* and *V. Mulfordae* with cleistogamous flowers were other plants of special interest that were collected.

The field meeting of September 8 was at Maplewood, New Jersey. Mr. William H. Smith was the guide. Some interesting botanical ground close to the railway station was first shown, Mr. Smith calling attention to the giant hyssop and mentioning the whorled pogonia (*Isotria verticillata*) as abundant in one spot which was pointed out. The party was next conducted over the brow of the mountain just above the town into a woodland swamp to look for swamp ferns. Besides the osmundas and other commoner kinds, Boott's fern and the crested fern were found here. This swamp is too extensive to be explored in a short time and would prove interesting ground for further search. The main part of the swamp had been cleared of most of its timber for some years and is not so favorable for the wild plants of the deep woods as it must have been at a former time. It was interesting, though regrettable, to note that most of the open part of the swamp had been overrun by *Polygonum arifolium*, which excluded other plants and formed a dense tangle. A visit to another interesting place beyond this swamp concluded a profitable afternoon's outing.

On September 15 was given the seventh forestry lesson of the special series begun in the spring and discontinued during the summer. The subject of the lesson was "Vegetation of Swamps and Sand Dunes," with Dr. Arthur Hollick as instructor and guide. Ten members were present, and the bench, dune, and salt marsh areas explored extended from New Creek, South Beach, to Midland Beach, Staten Island. The region consists of a barrier beach, with a limited amount of dune sand above high-water mark, and extensive salt marshes on the land side. The salt marsh formerly extended out beyond the present beach line and remains of the old marsh turf or sod were seen exposed at low tide. The beach was formed by sand drifted in by the tides and currents and not by the wearing away of the adjacent meadow land. In places the sand was found drifted by the wind into low dunes about four or five feet high. The formation of the dunes is largely due to the influence of *Ammophila arenaria*, which not only forms extensive mats of roots but also is able to grow upward through sand drifted over it, thus holding the sand in place. Accompanying plants were *Cenchrus tribuloides*, *Solidago sempervirens*, *Myrica carolinensis*, and *Cakile edentula*. On the borders of the the salt marsh, *Baccharis halimifolia* was particularly conspicuous; also, *Iva frutescens*, *Pluchea camphorata*, and *Limonium carolinianum*. A few plants of *Sabbatia stellaris* were found; this has apparently disappeared from areas where it was formerly very abundant. A grove of *Juniperus virginiana* was a conspicuous feature on a slight rise on the salt-marsh border.

The eighth forestry lesson, announced to be given at Fort Lee, New Jersey, on September 22, with Dr. C. C. Curtis as instructor and guide, was prevented by a heavy rain.

On September 29, seven members of the Club held a field meeting at West Orange, New Jersey, under the guidance of Mr. Percy Wilson. The "first" and "second" mountains were visited. *Lycopodium lucidulum*, *Corallorhiza odontorhiza*, *Vitis cordifolia*, and the fringed and closed gentians, were among the plants noted. Some attention was paid to the violets, especially to apparently connecting forms between *Viola sagittata* and *V. fimbriatula*.

NEWS ITEMS

Dr. C. B. Robinson, assistant curator of the New York Botanical Garden, spent the month of August in making collections in Nova Scotia, mostly in the vicinity of Pictou and in Cape Breton.

A recent number of *Science* states that Dr. F. E. Clements has been promoted from the associate professorship of plant physiology in the University of Nebraska to the professorship of the same subject.

Mr. T. S. Brandegee, of San Diego, California, has given his herbarium and botanical library to the University of California. His address is now in care of the botanical department of that University at Berkeley.

Chester A. Darling (A.M., Albion College, 1906) has been appointed assistant in botany in Columbia University to succeed Dr. Ira D. Cardiff, who has been elected to the professorship of botany in the University of Utah.

Dr. Melville Thurston Cook has resigned his position as chief of the department of plant pathology of the Central Agricultural Experiment Station of Cuba. He expects to devote several months to studies at the New York Botanical Garden.

Dr. Raymond H. Pond, professor of botany in the Northwestern University School of Pharmacy, Chicago, Ill., has a year's leave of absence and is now at the New York Botanical